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Practitioner's Docket No.: 939_030

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Akira MATSUMOTO, Masashi FUKUYAMA

Ser. No.: 09/976,462

Art Unit: 2874

Filed: October 12, 2001

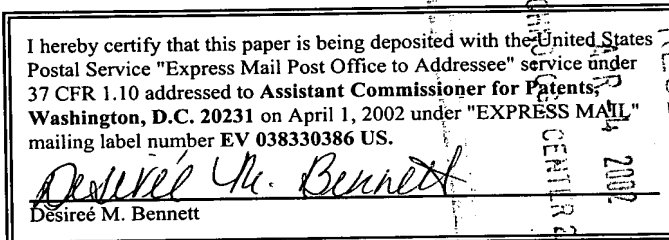
Examiner: Not Assigned

Confirmation No.: 9975



For: FIBER ARRAY, METHOD FOR FABRICATING THE SAME AND OPTICAL
DEVICE USING THE FIBER ARRAY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of each of the references listed on Form PTO-1449 are attached.

Also enclosed is a copy of a European Search Report bearing a mailing date of March 6, 2002 from a corresponding European patent application, and the U.S. PTO is directed thereto for a concise statement of possible relevance of the references cited therein.

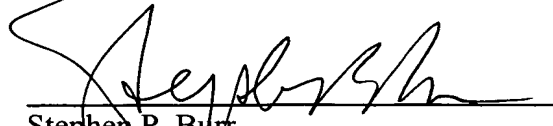
The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that these references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,

April 1, 2002

Date



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